MONTANA Natural Resource Information System

Topofinder II

http://nris.state.mt.us/topofinder2

Zoom in

You can either click anywhere on the map or click and drag to draw a rectangle in any direction. Release the mouse button to zoom in.

Zoom out

Select the zoom out button and click on the map to zoom out.

Pan

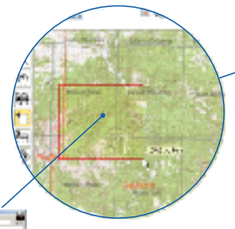
Select the pan button. Click and drag on the map in any direction to pan to a new location

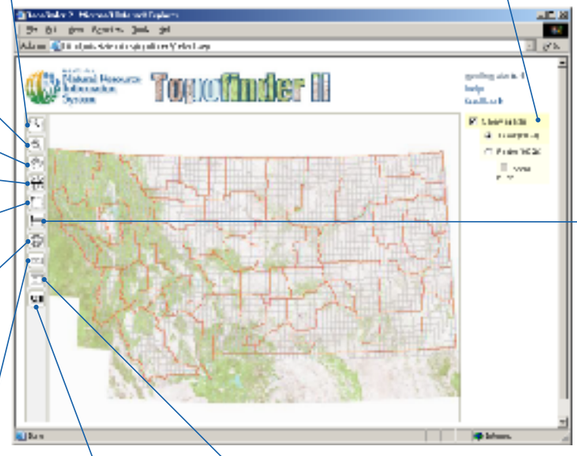
Full Extent

Clicking on this allows you to return to the full extent for Montana.

Selection Rectangle

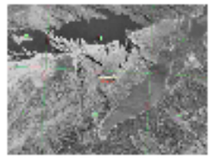
This works much like the zoom in tool. Clicking and dragging with it will highlight quads on the map and will pop up a window with a list of quads for downloading.





Toggling between topos and photos

Use the radio buttons on the right side of the map to toggle between topo maps (DRGs) or aerial photos (DOQs). Sometimes you can't see images when the DOQ option is selected. Either you are not zoomed in far enough or there is no coverage for that area. There is a checkbox for adding township and range (PLSS) to the map when DOQs are selected.



Query

Clicking the button will pop up a window with a menu of various ways to locate places or areas on the map.

Named Features

You can select one or more feature types and get a list of all the places in the state of those types.

Clicking on an item in the list will display it on the map.

You can also type in a name without selecting a feature type. This will bring up a list of all places in the state.

Selecting both a feature type and entering a name will narrow your search considerably.

Map Name Search (24K)

Locate a quad by name. Click on a letter to find quads beginning with that letter. Select from the pulldown menu and click "Locate" to display the quad on the map.

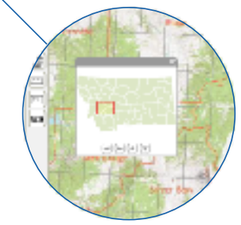
Lat/Lon Search (Decimal)

Enter the decimal coordinates for a location. Hit "Locate" and it will be displayed on the map.

Navigation palette

Click on the navigation button to bring up the navigation palette. You can drag the palette around on the screen to reposition it. Click on the "X" to close the palette.

You can use the navigation palette to move to another part of the map, either by dragging the red box or using the arrow buttons. (Shift-clicking a button will move 9X farther).

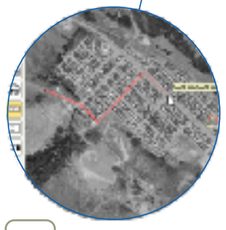


Location

Move mouse over map to get coordinates in State Plane (NAD 83) and Latitude/Longitude

Measure

Click on the map to start measuring. You can continue clicking around the map to find a total distance between several points. To start over, Alt-Click.



Scale bar

Click on the scale bar button to bring up the scale bar. You can drag the palette around on the screen to reposition it. Click on the "X" to close the palette.

SVG

Topofinder II uses SVG both to display data and to provide the graphical user interface (GUI) for mapping functions. SVG, or Scalable Vector Graphics, is an XML standard for displaying visual information. It is similar to HTML, but like PostScript, is a much more powerful way of doing screen layout. Designers and developers have much more control and flexibility with SVG.

SVG is also scriptable (using Javascript), which allows us to create tools and behaviors similar to those found in traditional desktop applications. Because there are SVG viewer plug-ins for web browsers, such as Internet Explorer, we are able to deliver this functionality through a familiar and widely used application.

Topofinder II requires Adobe's SVG Viewer plug-in. You can find out more by visiting http://nris.state.mt.us/svg/gettingstarted.htm